

Meet the members of the Windham Economic Development Committee, Part II

The Windham Economic Development Committee was established as a Town Committee in April of 2010 by the Board of Selectmen. It exists to enhance the vitality of the local economy. The WEDC is comprised of 11 members, 8 as appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the remaining 3 are Ex-Officio members of the current Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, and Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce appointed annually by their respective boards. The members who serve on the committee volunteer their time and are extremely passionate about the community and fulfilling the spirit of our Town's motto: **Old Values, New Horizons**. Here is a look at 5 members of the WEDC:

Al Letizio, Jr: WEDC Chairman and Selectmen Liaison: Al moved to Windham with his family in 1976 and currently serves as Selectman and previously had served 8 years on the Town's school board. He is President and CEO of A.J. Letizio Sales & Marketing, Inc. His business has been located in Windham since 2000. Al was originally recruited by the Board of Selectmen at the time he began on the WEDC and hoped to provide a resident and business owner's perspective to the mission of the WEDC. Al has strong family values and has been committed to local community for many years. He continues to support and be a great example for young business owners and the youth of our community. **Ed**

Gallagher: WEDC Vice Chair: Ed has resided in Windham with his wife and two daughters since 1997. Previous to serving on the WEDC he served as a member of the school board. Ed is an executive of a Fortune 50 Technology company with an office in Manchester, NH. He joined the WEDC because he believes in community service and specifically he sees Windham facing a key inflection point where development opportunities resulting from the Route 93/111 changes will significantly define the character of the town for generations to come. He believes that to enhance quality of life it will require thoughtful strategic planning with many groups working together with a shared vision and purpose. He believes carefully planned Economic Development will help with our growing school needs, help improve quality of life for seniors and help maintain a uniqueness to Windham in the years ahead. **Paul Gosselin:** Paul has been a resident of Windham for 15 years, is a current member of the Planning Board and serves as Planning Board Liaison to the WEDC. He owns several commercial real estate businesses and has a vast knowledge in commercial development. He originally joined the WEDC because he felt we needed a stronger business community in town. He feels that the tax burden falls too heavily on the residents of our community which is reflected in the public numbers of residents pay 92% of the tax burden while businesses pay only 8% the burden. He feels that there could be a better balance in those numbers with the proper commercial development in our community. He thought that his background in commercial real estate would assist the community in achieving that goal. **Lisa Walker:** Lisa resides in Hudson, NH and has for the past year, prior to that she lived in Nashua, NH. She is employed by Edward Jones as a Financial Advisor and since 2011 she operates the branch located in Windham. Lisa joined the WEDC to support the community that supports her business. Edward Jones promotes a culture of volunteering in the communities they serve. She felt the WEDC was a good fit for her because she serves both small business owners and individuals and understands the impact taxes can have on portfolios. **Joel Desilets:** Joel has been a resident of Windham for 2 years and has served as Selectman since 2014 and is the Selectmen alternate to the WEDC. He has been an engineer for the past 10 years with a focus on Quality, Process, Product configuration and now Applications Engineering for circuit Technology Company. Joel joined the WEDC because he feels the local businesses, their owners and employees are the bedrock of the community. He is committed to listening to their concerns and building an environment of equal opportunity and prosperity for all.

Please stay tuned for our next communication to stay informed about WEDC topics of interest!

The WEDC is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and easing the tax burden of our residents. We invite you to visit us online at: www.windhamnewhampshire.com/committees/economic-development-committee